GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:200
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2003
NEW GUIDELINES FOR AGRICULTURE LOANS
RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH;V. VETRISELVAN

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the RBI has recently announced new guidelines to be implemented by banks in regard to agriculture loans;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have also slashed down the rate of interest on agriculture loans;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the extent to which farmers would be benefited thereby; and

(f) the total amount of loan disbursed by banks to farmers for agriculture purposes during each of the last three years, State-wise?

Answer

FINANCE MINISTER (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

(a) to (f) : A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (f) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question number 200 for 1.8.2003regarding NEW GUIDELINES FOR AGRICULTURE LOANS raised by SHRI V.VETRISELVAN and DR.RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH.

(a),(b),(c),(d) & (e) : Indian Banks` Association (IBA) has advised all public sector banks on 12th July, 2003 tocharge an interest rate not exceeding 9% p.a. on crop loans upto Rs.50,000/- with effect from 15th July, 2003. The reduction in rate of interest will benefit most of the crop loan account holders among small and marginal farmers.

(f): State-wise outstanding agriculture credit of commercial banks for the last three years is given in the Annexure.

Annexure

State-wise outstanding Advances of Scheduled Commercial Banks to Agriculture as on end of March, 1999, 2000 and 2001

(Rs. in crore)

	March 1999	March 2000	March 2001
Northern Region	7183	9470	12431
Haryana	1312	1585	1924
Himachal Pradesh	157	167	199
J & K	168	164	135
Punjab	2745	3170	3706
Rajasthan	1894	2261	2790
Chandigarh	294	421	727
Delhi	611	1704	2951
North-Eastern Region	468	464	465
Assam	331	314	323
Manipur	19	29	19
Meghalaya	17	19	19
Nagaland	22	24	22
Tripura	52	51	57
Arunachal Pradesh	12	15	13
Mizoram	5	6	5
Sikkim	8	7	7
Eastern Region	3842	4411	5094

Bihar	1225	1279	1207
Jharkhand	-	-	163
Orissa	730	783	801
West Bengal	1883	2345	2919
Andaman & Nicobar	4	3	4
Central Region	6020	6929	7975
Madhya Pradesh	2577	2881	2969
Chattisgarh	-	-	140
Uttar Pradesh	3462	4048	4751
Uttaranchal	-	-	115
Western Region	7481	11142	13670
Gujarat	2253	2455	2960
Maharashtra	5158	8620	10651
Daman & Diu	1	1	1
Goa	67	64	56
D & N Haveli	1	1	1
Southern Region	16203	17017	19676
Andhra Pradesh	5196	5671	6343
Karnataka	4358	4367	5210
Kerala	1844	1936	2069
Tamil Nadu	4751	4978	5991
Pondicherry	51	53	61
Lakshadweep	1	12	1
All India	41210	49434	59310